



Atty. Dkt. No. 040302-0278

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Isamu HOTTA et al.

**Title:** EXHAUST EMISSION CONTROL DEVICE OF INTERNAL  
COMBUSTION ENGINE

**Appl. No.:** 09/974,878

**Filing Date:** 10/12/2001

**Examiner:** D. Tran

**Art Unit:** 3748

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 25 2004**

**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the ~~Final Office Action~~ dated July 24, 2003, and the Advisory Action dated February 6, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows:

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